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Examiner: Eric B. Fuller

Group Art Unit: 1762

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2001, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

Group II: Claims 14-26, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 118, subclass 715.

Applicants hereby provisionally select Group I, Claims 1-13, with traverse.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 24947

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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